

P/N 5,971,625

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	LU	Examiner:	UNKNOWN
Patent No.:	5,971,625	Group Art Unit:	2874
Assignee:	ADC TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.		
Issued:	OCTOBER 26, 1999	Docket No.:	2316.690USRE
Title:	DOUBLE FERRULE SC CONNECTOR AND ADAPTER		

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By:

Name:


Scott Mann

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified Reissue Application, please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please add claims 18-22.

18. An optical fiber connector assembly comprising:

a. a fiber optic connector having a connector housing, the connector housing including a leading end, and first and second ferrules adjacent to the leading end of the connector housing;

b. a fiber optic adapter having an adapter housing, the adapter housing having a central open end, and first and second sleeves positioned to communicate with the open end;

1. the first and second sleeves positioned parallel to one another;

2. the first and second sleeves positioned and sized to receive
respective ones of the first and second ferrules as the connector housing is fully
inserted into a full insert position; and

3. the open end having an outer perimeter defining an SC footprint.

19. The optical fiber connector assembly of claim 18 further comprising a clip arrangement
for releasably mating the connector to the adapter.

20. The optical fiber connector assembly of claim 18 wherein the adapter housing includes an
exterior flange, and further comprising an exterior clip on the adapter housing, the clip spaced
from the exterior flange.

21. The optical fiber connector assembly of claim 18 wherein the open end is a first open
end, wherein the adapter housing includes a second open end opposite the first open end,
wherein the second open end is sized for receiving a second fiber optic connector including a
second connector housing, the second connector housing including a leading end, and first and
second ferrules adjacent to the leading end of the second connector housing of the second fiber
optic connector.

22. A fiber optic adapter for use with a single fiber optic connector having a connector
housing including a leading end, and first and second ferrules adjacent to the leading end, the
fiber optic adapter comprising:

a. an adapter housing having a central open end, and first and second sleeves
positioned to communicate with the open end;

1. the first and second sleeves positioned parallel to one another;

2. the first and second sleeves positioned and sized to receive
respective ones of the first and second ferrules as the connector housing is fully
inserted into a full insert position;

3. the open end having an outer perimeter defining an SC footprint;

and

- b. a clip for releaseably connecting to the connector housing.

REMARKS

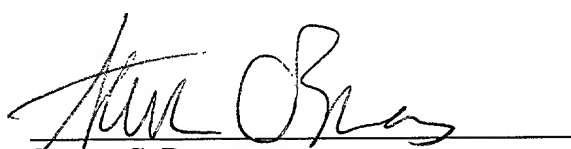
Original claims 1-17 from U.S. Patent No. 5,971,625 are pending. New claims 18-22 have been added by this amendment. This is a broadening reissue application filed within 2 years of issuance.

Claims 1- 22 are related to independent claims 1 and 14 of the '625 patent, having changes including elimination of the first and second mating fasteners including a clip and a detent. New claims 18-22 are directed to an optical fiber connector assembly having a fiber optic adapter including an adapter housing for receiving a connector with two ferrules, where the adapter housing has an outer perimeter defining an SC footprint. By positioning two ferrules in the inventive adapter with the SC footprint, the density of connections can be doubled over the prior art SC adapter, like that shown in U. S. Patent No. 5,317,663, where only a single ferrule was received. Support for claims 18-22 is found, for example, with reference to col. 4, lines 25-65, and FIGS. 1-4.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: Oct. 26, 2001


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